

WESTERN DISTRICT:

Environmental Health

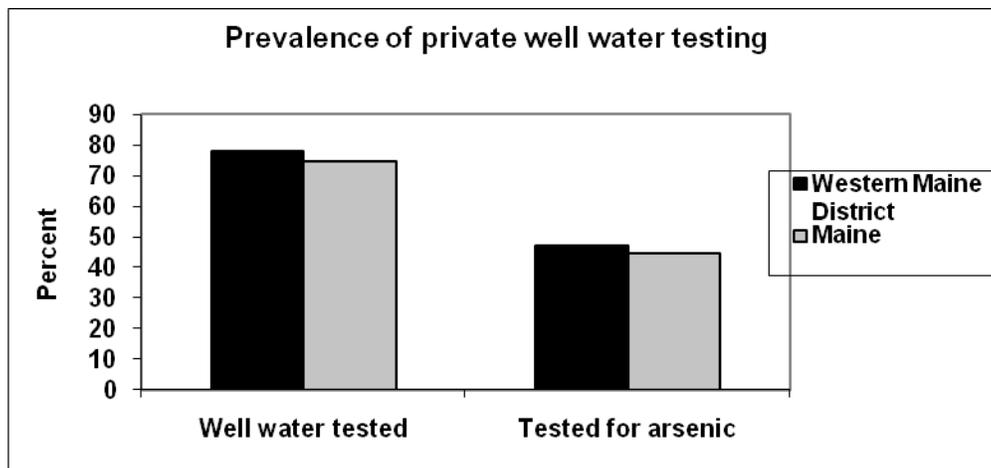
Private Well Water Testing

More than half of Maine’s population relies on a private well for their drinking water. Many Maine wells have unsafe levels of arsenic, radon, uranium - chemicals that can cause cancer or other health effects.

Testing is the only way to know if the well water is safe to drink.

To find out more about drinking water and where to get water test kits in Maine go to:

www.wellwater.maine.gov/



*Source: 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

| | Western District Percent (± Margin of Error) | Maine State Percent (± Margin of Error) |
|---|--|---|
| Homes with private well water tested* | 77.8 (± 6.2) | 74.6 (±2.7) |
| Homes with private well water tested for arsenic* | 47.1 (±9.4) | 44.6 (±3.9) |

*Source: 2003 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

Public Drinking Water Systems

Safe drinking water is essential to protecting good human health. Maine people enjoy access to excellent quality drinking water from many lakes, rivers and underground aquifers. More than 2,000 public water systems provide drinking water to over half of Maine's population and many guests.

Public water systems must comply with the federal [Safe Drinking Water Act](#) and state laws, including protecting drinking water sources and maintaining or improving local water system facilities. Communities can work together to protect shared drinking water sources.

The Maine CDC Drinking Water Program helps communities with technical assistance, grants and funding. FMI contact: www.mainepublichealth.gov

| Total Number of DISTRICT Community Water Systems | | Total DISTRICT Population Served by Community Drinking Water Systems | |
|---|---|--|--|
| 57 | | 85,571 | |
| Total Number of DISTRICT Water Quality Violations Documented in 2006 | Total Number of DISTRICT Systems in Which Violations Occurred | Total DISTRICT Population Served by Community Water Systems with a Violation(s) | |
| 9 | 10 | 29,937 | |
| Percent of DISTRICT Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards | | Percent of MAINE Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards | |
| 84.21% | | 79.84% | |
| Percent of DISTRICT Population Served by Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards | | Percent of MAINE Population Served by Community Water Systems Meeting all Health Based Standards | |
| 65.02% | | 86.74% | |

| Total Number of DISTRICT Community Water Systems with a Wellhead Protection Plan | | Total Population Served by DISTRICT Community Water Systems with Wellhead Protection | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 46 | | 80,073 | |
| Percent of DISTRICT Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place | Percent of MAINE Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place | Percent of MAINE Population served by Community Water Systems with Source Water Protection in Place | |
| 80.70% | 83.72% | 78.49% | |